

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRAGUE 01230 231709Z

51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 BIB-01

ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /075 W

----- 039296

P R 231540Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8154

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 1230

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CZ

SUBJECT: INTERNAL SITUATION

1. THE IMPRESSION IS BEING GIVEN THAT PREPARATIONS ARE IN TRAIN FOR POLITICAL CHANGES DURING THE COMING WEEK. EMBOFF OBSERVED WHAT SEEMED TO BE GATHERING OF HIGH LEVEL LEADERS AFTERNOON MAY 23. GERMAN AMBASSADOR HAD INVITED FONMIN CHNOUPEK TO FRG NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION MONDAY MAY 26 AND WAS TOLD BY RANKING MFA OFFICIAL THAT CHNOUPEK HAD PLANNED TO COME BUT HAD IMPORTANT MEETING HE COULD NOT AFFORD TO MISS.

2. AT NATO AMBASSADORS LUNCHEON MAY 23, WIDESPREAD RUMOR WAS REPORTED THAT CENTRAL COMMITTEE WOULD MEET MAY 26, THEN NATIONAL FRONT WOULD MEET MAY 27 TO NOMINATE NEW CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT, AND FEDERAL ASSEMBLY WOULD RATIFY THIS CANDIDATE MAY 28.

3. DISCUSSION AT NATO AMBASSADORS DISCLOSED LOTS OF OLD RUMORS AND FEW NEW NEWS. MOST AMBASSADORS EXPECTED SVOBODA TO BE REPLACED BY HUSAK AS PRESIDENT, BUT STATUS AND TENURE OF HUSAK AS SECRETARY GENERAL WAS SUBJECT ONLY OF SPECULATION. QUESTION WAS RAISED OF ANOTHER CANDIDATE BESIDES HUSAK FOR PRESIDENCY, AND SOME CZECH SOURCES HAD SAID THIS WAS NOT TO BE RULED OUT. QUESTION ALSO WAS DISCUSSED OF WHAT BALANCE WOULD

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRAGUE 01230 231709Z

BE IN PRESIDUM IF SVOBODA LEFT IT, ESPECIALLY BETWEEN CZECHS

AND SLOVAKS (ONE VERSION HAD IT THAT SVOBODA MIGHT EVEN BE RETAINED IN PRESIDUM OF PARTY TO KEEP VIABLE BALANCE GOING), AND POSSIBLIITY OF REVIVAL OF SEPARATE CZECH PARTY CAME UP. RUMOR WAS ALSO REPORTED OF POSSIBLE NEW AMNESTY (WHICH IS TRADITIONAL WITH NEW PRESIDENT), WIDER THAN THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY ONE, TO START NEW PRESIDENCY OFF WELL.

4. SUBJECT CAME UP AMONG NATO AMBASSADORS OF MESSAGES FROM GOVERNMENTS. MOST AMBASSADORS SAID THIS WAS LEFT TO THEIR CAPITALS, AND WHILE THEY WOULD EXPECT NORMAL MESSAGE OF CONGRADULATIONS TO NEW PRESIDENT, THEY DID NOT KNOW IF CAPITALS WOULD WISH TO SEND MESSAGE TO OUTGOING PRESIDENT SVOBODA. BASED ON WHAT HAPPENED WHEN SVOBODA WAS REINSTATED IN 1972, AMBASSADORS EXPECTED TO BE INVITED TO ELECTION BY FEDERAL ASSEMBLY ON MAY 28 AND THOUGHT INVESTITURE OF NEW PRESIDENT WOULD FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY ON SAME DAY; BUT THIS WAS BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE AND NOTHING HAD BEEN OFFICIALLY COMMUNICATED BY PROTOCOL AS REGARDS NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS.
PERRY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, AMBASSADORS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PRAGUE01230
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750182-0136
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750523/aaaaaufg.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAY 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <26 SEP 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNAL SITUATION
TAGS: PINT, CZ, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006